

Ref 3d

09/445945

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430 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 DEC 1999

**(Amended) CLAIMS:**

1. Filling connection for gas cylinder valves, especially on acetylene cylinders, with an actuating element (2) and a discharge connection (4) on the valve body (3) of the gas cylinder valve (1), wherein in addition to the discharge connection (4) a filling union (6) is provided on the valve body (3), extending in its longitudinal direction, characterized in that the actuating element (2) is arranged opposite the discharge connection (4) and at the side on the valve body (3).
2. Filling connection according to claim 1, characterized in that the discharge connection (4) and the filling union (6) are arranged at right angles to one another on the valve body (3).
3. Filling connection according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the filling union (6) is disposed vertically.
4. Filling connection according to any of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that a spring-biased check valve (5) is fitted in the discharge connection (4) and blocks in the filling direction.
5. Filling connection according to any of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the discharge connection (4) and the filling union (6) each open into a separate or a common through bore (9) in the valve body (3).
6. Filling connection according to any of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the discharge connection (4) and filling union (6) are formed in one piece with the valve body (3).

7. Filling connection according to any of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the filling union (6) is fitted in the valve body (3), especially screwed in.
8. Filling connection according to any of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the filling union (6) has an outer annular groove (6a) for engagement of a filling coupling (8).
9. Filling connection according to any of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the filling union (6) has a company/user specific form for coding, matched to the corresponding filling coupling (8) being used.
10. Filling connection according to any of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that at least one valve, in particular a spring-biased check valve (7) is fitted in the filling union (6) and blocks in the discharge direction.
11. Filling connection according to any of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that the filling union (6) can be coupled to a filling station capable of being automated.
12. Filling connection according to claim 11, characterized in that the filling station comprises a multiple filling coupling (8) for simultaneous filling of a plurality of gas cylinders (10).
13. Filling connection according to any of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that the filling union (6) has the same outer dimensions and external shape as the discharge connection (4).